



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5242

February Session, 2022



AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION TASK FORCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study the sexual abuse and exploitation of children on the Internet or
3 facilitated by Internet users in the state during the period beginning
4 January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2021. Such study shall include
5 an examination of (1) the types and frequency of such abuse and
6 exploitation, (2) grooming tactics utilized by adults in order to engage
7 in such abuse and exploitation, and (3) any barriers that may prevent
8 the adequate or timely investigation or prosecution of such abuse and
9 exploitation.

10 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

11 (1) Five appointed by the chairpersons of the joint standing
12 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
13 relating to children as follows: One who (A) has expertise in the
14 prosecution of child sexual abuse and exploitation originating on the
15 Internet, (B) has expertise in data and behavioral trends concerning
16 child sexual abuse and exploitation, (C) is a representative of the
17 Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, (D) is a representative of the
18 Alliance to End Sexual Violence, and (E) is a representative of Safe From

19 Online Sex Abuse;

20 (2) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
21 commissioner's designee;

22 (3) The Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and
23 Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee; and

24 (4) The Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
25 designee.

26 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
27 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
28 be filled by the appointing authority.

29 (d) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
30 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children shall select
31 the chairperson of the task force from among the members of the task
32 force. Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the task force,
33 which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of
34 this section.

35 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
36 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children
37 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

38 (f) Not later than January 1, 2023, the task force shall submit a report
39 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
40 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,
41 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
42 The report shall include, but not be limited to, (1) the number of
43 allegations of such abuse and exploitation reported to law enforcement,
44 (2) the number of such reports that resulted in arrest and the number of
45 such reports that resulted in prosecution, and (3) to the extent the task
46 force can determine, the reasons why certain allegations were not
47 prosecuted. The report shall not contain personally identifying
48 information concerning victims of child sexual abuse or exploitation.

49 The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or
50 January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(a), "the Internet" was inserted after "children on" for clarity.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*